

LYME DISEASE

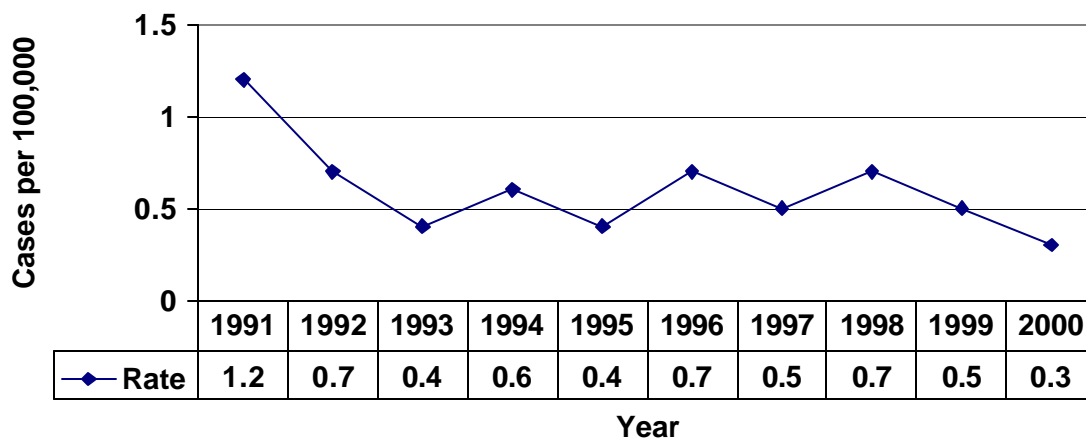
Lyme disease, caused by the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is transmitted by the bite of *Ixodes* ticks. The acute phase of the illness is characterized by an erythema migrans (EM), a red circular patch that usually appears 3 days to 1 month after the bite of an infected tick, at the site of the bite, and is accompanied by mild systemic symptoms. The chronic phase may occur within weeks to months after the initial infection and consists of arthritic, cardiac, or neurologic manifestations.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Isolation of *B. burgdorferi* from a clinical specimen, **OR**
- Demonstration of diagnostic IgM or IgG antibodies to *B. burgdorferi* in serum or CSF. A two-step testing approach using a sensitive enzyme immunoassay (EIA) or immunofluorescent assay (IFA) followed by Western Blot is required.

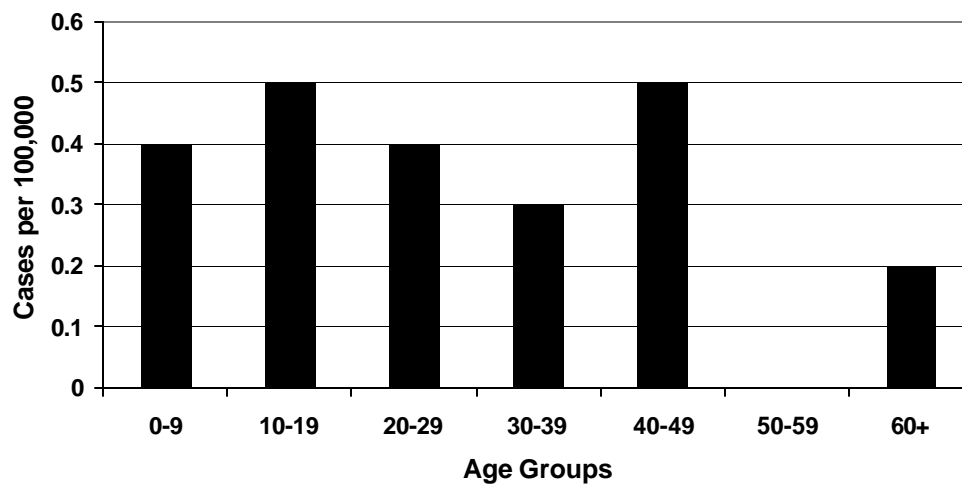
Kentucky Case Definition: Physician-diagnosed erythema migrans ≥ 5 cm in diameter, **OR** at least one late stage manifestation **AND** laboratory confirmation of infection. (See complete case definition on back of the CDC Lyme Disease Report Form in the Appendix).

**Lyme Disease Incidence, Kentucky
1991-2000**

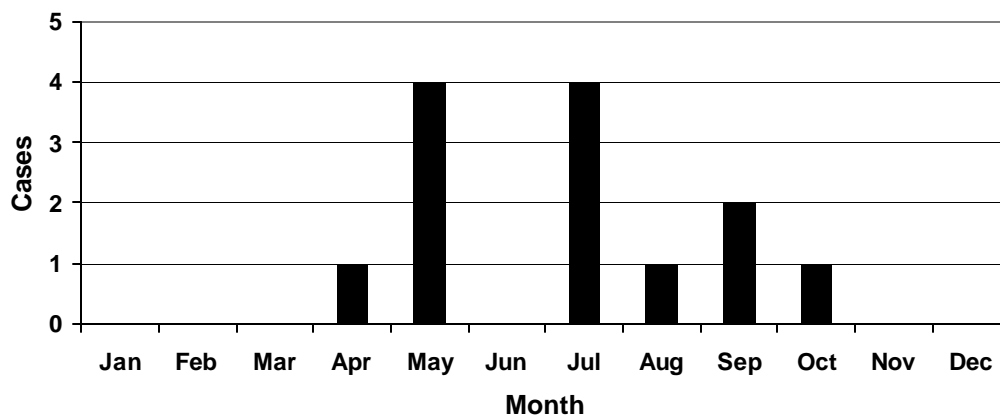


	2000
Number of Cases	13
Rate per 100,000	0.3
Rate by Gender	
Female	0.2
Male	0.5

**Lyme Disease, Age-Specific Incidence
Kentucky, 2000**

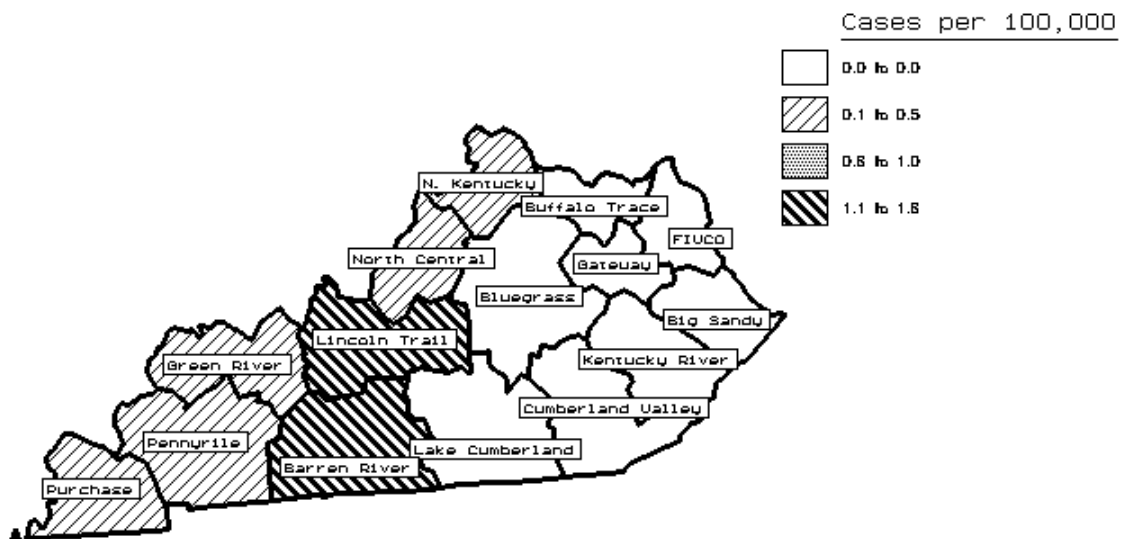


**Lyme Disease, Reported Cases by Month of Onset
Kentucky, 2000**



Thirty-three Lyme disease reports were received in 2000. Thirteen met case definition, seven were considered suspect, and thirteen were not cases.

Lyme Disease by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence, 2000



Barren River District reported the highest incidence of 1.6 cases per 100,000, followed by the Lincoln Trail District with 1.2 cases per 100,000. No cases were reported from the eastern part of the state.